

## **SURVEY**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The mission of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Division of Flood Management (DFM) is to prevent loss of life and reduce property damage caused by floods and to assist in recovery efforts following any natural disaster. The State-Federal Flood Operations Center (FOC) located in Sacramento is a component of the Division's Flood Operations Branch operating in conformance with the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). The FOC is the focal point for the gathering, analysis, and dissemination of flood and water-related information to stakeholders. During emergency situations, the FOC provides a facility from which DWR can centrally coordinate emergency response state-wide. When activated during flood emergencies, flood incidents, or other high-water events, depending on the scale of the event, one or both centers have a need to expand personnel resources with additional personnel from other branches within the Department.

During Flood Emergencies, the Flood Operations Center is also delegated the authority and responsibility to manage incident command teams (ICTs) allocated to the flood emergency. ICTs are utilized in the field operations on complex incidents and face challenges in directing interagency resources towards a common goal, single incidents or a complex of smaller incidents over a wide geographic area.

As a member of the DFM, you are currently identified as a member on the Flood FOC Emergency Response team during flood emergency situations. You are asked to complete this on-line survey / questionnaire to identify your ability, availability and preferences of what capacity you would like to serve. The questionnaire will determine your job skills based on your education and duties performed at both DWR and previous work experiences. Each of you has valuable skills that can be utilized to contribute in a time of extreme need to save lives and property.

SEMS is organized into the following five functions at the FOC and ICTs:

Management – directs all FOC/ICT activities, responsible for overall policy and coordination, coordinates requests for emergency assistance, personnel safety, and provides public information support.

FOC Operations - coordinates with Incident Command Posts, Mobilization Centers, and other field operations units including flood fight, technical assistance and emergency repairs

The Operations Section coordinates the dispatch of joint DWR / U.S. Army Corps of Engineers technical teams to investigate potential flood threats. If a flood fight is needed, flood fight Incident Command Teams may be dispatched. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Conservation Corps provide a majority of the field crews.

FOC Planning – collects, evaluates, documents and disseminates flood emergency information, prepares situation reports, incident reports, and action plans, provides primary interface with NWS weather and river forecasting programs, and provides Decision Support System and Geographic Information System support. Information includes river and weather conditions and forecasts, reservoir operations, situation reports, levee and other flood-related incident reports and maps.

Logistics – provides services, personnel, equipment and facilities in support of all operations, tracks personnel and equipment resources.

Finance & Administration – overall responsibility for accounting, time-keeping, recovery, and FEMA claims.

Resources needed – The FOC and ICTs need 80 to 120 trained staff that can respond to Flood Operations Center activation, fill SEMS roles and act as a team.

Time Commitment - need to prepare for a 14-day flood fight deployment, and 3-4 days per year for training/exercises.

Training - the FOC and ICTs must work together within their teams and will need specific training on how to conduct operations. Selected individuals will be trained through seminars, workshops, tabletop exercises and full scale exercises on problem solving techniques.

For additional information, please go to:

[http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/docs/state-federal\\_flood\\_operations\\_center.pdf](http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/docs/state-federal_flood_operations_center.pdf)